GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3313
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2007
COORDINATED PATROLLING OF PALK STRAITS
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Deora Shri Milind Murli;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka met the Defence Minister and reiterated Colombo's desire for coordinate patrolling of the Palk Straits by the Navies of India and Sri Lanka, during his visit to India as reported in the 'Asian Age' dated March 21, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of other issues discussed and decisions arrived?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): In the meeting of Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka and Raksha Mantri on 20-3-2007 at New Delhi various issues including patrolling in the Palk Straits along International Maritime Boundary Line were discussed. Decisions of various issues in dealing with a foreign country are taken by the government within the framework of Indian foreign policy.